

BOROUGH OF DARWEN



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1963

R. C. WEBSTER

B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Medical Officer of Health

E. P. McGLYNN,

C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Public Health Inspector



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*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Public Health Dept.
Darwen.*

B O R O U G H O F D A R W E N

R E P O R T

on the

HEALTH and SANITARY

ADMINISTRATION

of the BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR 1963

By

R, C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

E. P. McGLYNN, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Public Health Inspector

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

1963 - 64

COUNCILLOR G.W. SNAPE, J.P., MAYOR

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. ASPDEN

VICE-CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR DR. J. ROBINSON, M.D.

Ald. A. BARNES

Coun. H.R. EVANS

Ald. J. BRAITHWAITE

Coun. C.R. GRILLS

Ald. MISS. M. BROUGHTON, J.P.

Coun. G. HARWOOD

Ald. P.S. HUNT

Coun. J. HAWORTH

Ald. A. KAY, J.P.

Coun. W. JAMES

Ald. E. YATES, LL.B., J.P.

Coun. C.W. JONES

Coun. A. BANKS

Coun. DR. H.W. LEES, M.R.C.S.

Coun. MRS. A.C. CRYER

Coun. J. McGLYNN

Coun. D. DAVIDSON

Coun. G. RILEY

JOHN CHADWICK FIELDING, LL.B.

Town Clerk.

STAFF of the PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

=====

OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :.....	(	R. C. Webster, T.D., B.Sc.,
Divisional Medical Officer,	(	M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.
Lancashire County Council.....	(
Deputy Medical Officer of Health .....	(	Sheila M. Wheeler, L.R.C.P.,
Senior Assistant Divisional	(	L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P & S.,
Medical Officer,	(	D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Lancashire County Council.....	(
Senior Public Health Inspector.....	(	Edmund P. McGlynn, C.S.I.B.,
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.....	(	Cert. Insp. Meat and Other
	(	Food,
	(	Smoke Insp. (Cert) M.A.P.H.I.,
	(	M.R.S.H.
	(
District Public Health Inspectors.....	(	H. Ramsbottom, C.S.I.B., Cert.
	(	Insp. Meat and Other Foods,
	(	M.A.P.H.I.,
	(
	(	P. H. Watson, C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp.
	(	Meat and Other Foods, M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector's	(
Articled Pupil.....	(	B. Taylor
Chief Clerk.....		J. Bolton
	(
Clerical Staff.....	(	Miss. M. Duckworth
	(	Miss. K. A. Hargreaves

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Child Welfare & Diphtheria Immunisation	Civic Health Centre	Monday 2 p.m. Thursday..... 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
Ante-Natal	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday..... 10 a.m. Thursday..... 10 a.m. Wednesday..... 2 p.m. 1st and 3rd Fridays.....9.30 a.m. (Specialist)	Lancashire County Council
Ante-Natal Relaxation	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday..... 2 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
Speech Therapy	Civic Health Centre	Monday a.m and p.m. Wednesday p.m. Thursday a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Maternity & Child Welfare Dental and School Dental	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday to Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	Lancashire County Council
School Clinics	Civic Health Centre	Minor Ailments Monday to Friday 9.0 a.m. & 4 p.m. Tuesday 2 p.m. Friday..... 2 p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Ophthalmic	Civic Health Centre	Monday a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council

... continued ...

... continued...

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE	SITUATION	DAY AND TIME	BY WHOM PROVIDED
Ear, Nose and Throat	Civic Health Centre	Tuesday p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Orthopaedic	Civic Health Centre	Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Chiropodist	Civic Health Centre	Monday p.m. Thursday p.m. (by appointment)	Lancashire County Council
Cardiac Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn	1st Tuesday in every month (by appointment)	Blackburn & District Hospital Manage- ment Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Royal Infirmary Blackburn	Tuesday 9 a.m to 12 noon Wednesday 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Venereal Diseases	Royal Infirmary Blackburn	Males & Females Monday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
B.C.G. Vaccination Prevention of Tuberculosis	Royal Infirmary Blackburn	By appointment	Manchester Regional Hospital Board
Poliomyelitis	Civic Health Centre	Monday p.m. Thursday p.m.	Lancashire County Council



Civic Health Centre,
Darwen.

June, 1964.

TO THE CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the HEALTH COMMITTEE

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for 1963.

One notices a sharp rise in infant mortality but when this is taken with last years abnormally low figure it will be seen that for the two years the real figure is below 20, and quite satisfactory at the present day. The infant deaths were almost all due to congenital causes not yet subject to any real control. Measles made its customary biennial appearance, and some dysentery was prevalent but as usual a nuisance rather than a danger.

Steady progress in dealing with housing conditions continued during the year.

I thank you Mr. Chairman and Members for your unfailing support and all my colleagues for a year of loyal co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART I.
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Statistics and Social Conditions

General Provisions of the Health Services

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

BY

R. C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY of STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1963

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Geographical Position	Lat. 53° 41' 25" N Lon. 2° 28' 32" W
Elevation above sea level.....	500 ft. to over 800 ft.
Geological formation.....	Boulder clay and sand, over coal measures.
Area (in acres).....	5,959
Population - Census, 1961.....	29,452
Population - Registrar - General's Mid-year Estimate for 1963.....	29,440
Number of Inhabited Houses - Census 1961.....	10,532
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1963...	10,712
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers at Census, 1961.....	10,532
Rateable Value.....	£810,556
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....	£ 3,150

The inhabitants are mainly of the artisan, or working class, and the principal industries are cotton weaving, paper making and staining, plastic and paint manufacturing and engineering trades.

Of a total of 12,858 insured adult persons, the average per cent unemployed was 3.25. The corresponding figures for 1962 were :-

Insured adult persons	13,072
Average per cent unemployed	3.16

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

=====

		<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	243	243	486	Birth-rate per 1,000 Estimated Home Population mid 1963 Crude 17.7 Adjusted 19.6
	(Illegitimate	12	23	35	
	(-----	----	----	----	
	(Total	255	266	521	
	(=====	=====	=====	=====	
STILL BIRTHS	(Legitimate	7	3	10	Rate per 1,000 total Births: 24.3
	(Illegitimate	3	Nil	3	
	(-----	---	---	---	
	(Total	10	3	13	
	(===	===	===	===	
DEATHS	(Death-rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1963 Crude 15.3 Adjusted 15.3
	(
	(..... 229	229	222	451	
	(
	(
MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION	(
	(Respiratory T.B.			Nil	
	(Malignant Neoplasms,etc.			2.68	
MATERNAL MORTALITY	(Deaths from Pregnancy,Childbirth and Abortion.....			Nil	
	(Mortality Rate per 1,000 total Births.....			Nil	

		<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
INFANTILE MORTALITY (Infants under the age of one year)	(Legitimate			
	(Infants...	6	9	15
	(Illegitimate			
	(Infants...	1	Nil	1
	(-----	-----	-----	-----
	(Total Deaths....	7	9	16
		===	===	===

Rate per 1,000 Live Births..... 30.7

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

YEAR	DARWEN	ENGLAND AND WALES
1954	28	25.5
1955	23	24.9
1956	27	23.8
1957	26	23.0
1958	20.1	22.5
1959	28.4	22.0
1960	30.6	21.7
1961	16.0	21.4
1962	6.2	21.4
1963	30.7	20.9

OTHER INFANT DEATHS

	Total	Rate per 1,000 population
Deaths from Measles (at all ages)....	Nil	0.000
Deaths from Whooping Cough (at all ages)....	Nil	0.000
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)...	1*	0.033

* This child also had a congenital abnormality of the intestines.

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.....	12
	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	23.0

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	17.3
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PERINATAL MORTALITY	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births.....	41.2
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Please Note :-

"Perinatal Mortality" shows the total number of stillbirths and total number of Infant Deaths during the first week of age".

BIRTHS. The number of live births registered during the year was 521, giving a birth-rate adjusted by comparsion with the estimated home population of 19.6 per 1,000. The trend of this rate over the past ten years in comparsion with the rate for England and Wales is shown in the following table -

YEAR	DARWEN			ENGLAND AND WALES	
	NUMBER OF BIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL		
1954	212	188	400	14.4	15.2
1955	211	222	433	15.6	15.0
1956	204	201	405	14.7	15.7
1957	224	207	431	15.6	16.1
1958	228	219	447	16.3	16.4
1959	238	220	458	16.8	16.5
1960	235	222	457	16.8	17.1
1961	250	250	500	18.2	17.4
1962	232	253	485	17.7	18.0
1963	255	266	521	19.6	18.2

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS - The following table shows the number of illegitimate births and deaths for the past ten years :-

YEAR	NUMBER OF BIRTHS	RATE PER CENT OF LIVE BIRTHS	NO. OF DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS
1954	12	3.00	Nil	Nil
1955	18	4.15	Nil	Nil
1956	21	5.18	2	95
1957	29	6.72	Nil	Nil
1958	26	5.45	Nil	Nil
1959	18	3.93	Nil	Nil
1960	19	4.15	Nil	Nil
1961	28	5.60	Nil	Nil
1962	32	6.59	Nil	Nil
1963	35	6.71	1	28

STILLBIRTHS - The table given below sets out details relating to stillbirths for the past ten years :-

YEAR	NUMBER OF STILLBIRTHS			RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	
	LEGIT-IMATE	ILLEG-ITIMATE	TOTAL		DARWEN	ENGLAND & WALES
1954	13	Nil	13	31	0.42	0.36
1955	3	Nil	3	7	0.09	0.35
1956	7	1	8	19	0.26	0.37
1957	12	Nil	12	27	0.40	0.37
1958	10	Nil	10	21.9	0.33	0.36
1959	14	Nil	14	29.7	0.47	0.35
1960	16	Nil	16	33.8	0.54	0.34
1961	10	4	14	27.2	0.47	0.33
1962	5	2	7	14.2	0.23	0.33
1963	10	3	13	24.3	0.44	0.32

DEATHS - The number of deaths of Darwen residents which occurred during the year was 451, representing an adjusted death-rate per 1,000 of the population of 15.3.

The trend of the death-rate of the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales :-

YEAR	DARWEN		ENGLAND & WALES
	TOTAL DEATHS	RATE PER 1,000	RATE PER 1,000
1954	493	14.8	11.3
1955	464	14.0	11.7
1956	462	15.2	11.7
1957	436	14.4	11.5
1958	507	16.7	11.7
1959	472	15.7	11.6
1960	430	14.3	11.5
1961	480	15.9	12.0
1962	462	15.2	11.9
1963	451	15.3	12.2

The following is a copy of the information supplied by the Registrar-General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Darwen residents. The information does not include non-civilian deaths :-

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis; Respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, Other.....	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.....	1	-	1
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections.....	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases.....	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.....	7	4	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.....	20	2	22
Malignant Neoplasm; Breast.....	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.....	-	6	6
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms.....	13	22	35
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.....	1	1	2
Diabetes.....	1	1	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.....	34	40	74
Coronary Disease, Angina.....	59	39	98
Hypertension with Heart Disease.....	6	8	14
Other Heart Disease.....	17	33	50
Other Circulatory Disease.....	4	7	11
Influenza.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	9	6	15
Bronchitis.....	19	17	36
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.....	1	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.....	6	2	8
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.....	1	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis.....	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate.....	2	-	2
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.....	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.....	5	4	9
Other Defined & Ill-Defined Diseases.....	11	14	25
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	2	-	2
All Other Accidents.....	5	4	9
Suicide.....	3	4	7
Homicide and Operations of War.....	-	-	-
TOTALS.....	229	222	451

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

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A comprehensive range of services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics, Speech Therapy Clinics and other School Health Services - Medical and Dental.

Ambulance service is provided by Lancashire County Council.

Hospital services are provided by Manchester Regional Hospital Board, including general hospital facilities in Blackburn and a Maternity Home in the former Darwen Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bull Hill.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Pathological and Bacteriological Department of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the examination of pathological specimens for the Borough of Darwen, in accordance with the Government scheme now being officially carried out in this area by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

The bacteriological examination of food, water and other non-personal specimens is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, acting for the Medical Research Council of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, is shown in the following table, which includes particulars of Darwen cases notified and accepted, cases removed to hospital, and deaths from infectious diseases. The so-called minor infectious diseases, other than measles and whooping cough; are not included in the table, as they are not notifiable in Darwen and, therefore, statistics as to their incidence are not reliable.

DISEASE	TOTAL CASES AT ALL AGES	CASES NOTIFIED AND ACCEPTED										TOTAL DEATHS	HOSPITAL	
		YEARS											REMO- VED	IN HOSP- ITAL
		UN- DER 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25 & OVER				
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Scarlet Fever....	10	-	-	1	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (Excluding Paratyphoid).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Paratyphoid Fever.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	
Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)	571	33	69	85	91	82	192	14	5	-	-	2	-	
Whooping Cough...	5	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal).....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
Meningococcal Infection.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ACUTE POLIO- MYELITIS :-														
Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Non-Paralytic...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ACUTE ENCEPH- ALITIS :-														
Infective.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Post-Infectious.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery.....	153	1	10	24	10	7	44	15	11	31	-	1	-	
Ophthalmia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Neonatorum.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Erysipelas.....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	
MALARIA :-														
Contracted in England & Wales..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Abroad.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Food Poisoning...	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	
TOTALS :-	749	34	83	111	104	90	242	29	18	38	-	7	-	

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases during the past five years :-

DISEASE	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Smallpox.....	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	45	26	47	25	10
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).....	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid).....	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.....	-	-	-	-	2
Measles (excluding Rubella)..	27	902	180	259	571
Whooping Cough.....	42	120	8	6	5
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal).....	14	8	2	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	5	2	2	4	1
Meningococcal Infection.....	-	-	1	-	-
ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS :					
Paralytic.....	-	-	1	-	-
Non-Paralytic.....	-	-	-	-	-
ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS :					
Infective.....	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Infectious.....	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.....	121	-	120	133	153
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas.....	2	-	-	1	2
MALARIA :					
Contracted in England & Wales	-	-	-	-	-
Abroad.....	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.....	3	5	3	-	4
TOTALS :-	259	1063	364	428	749

TUBERCULOSIS

Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board.

The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board, but the Area Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse maintain close co-operation with the Public Health Department, furnishing particulars about housing conditions and environment generally. The necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified, and the deaths from the disease, during 1963 :-

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 -15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -25	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -45	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -65	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 -75	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*
75 & upwards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
	13		-		-		1	

* Death from Tuberculosis of a case not notified.

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis placed on the Register during the last 10 years :-

YEAR	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		TOTAL
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	
1954	5	6	-	2	13
1955	6	6	1	6	19
1956	9	5	2	-	16
1957	9	2	2	-	13
1958	11	3	2	1	17
1959	7	3	2	2	14
1960	4	5	-	-	9
1961	5	2	-	-	7
1962	4	2	-	-	6
1963	11	2	-	-	13

NATIONAL
ASSISTANCE
ACT, 1948
& 1951
Section 47

No action taken under this
Section

PART II.

=====

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area,

Housing, and

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

BY

E. P. McGLYNN, Esq., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., etc.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

=====

WATER

RESERVOIRS - Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board, on the constant system from the following reservoirs - Sunnyhurst Hey, Earnsdale and Bull Hill, of which the first two are open, and the last closed. All the water is from moorland gathering grounds. Water in the Bull Hill Reservoir is supplied from Bolton. Two supplementary water supplies are also available when required from a borehole in the centre of the town and a mineshaft at Eccleshill, piped by a common main to Sunnyhurst Reservoir.

PURIFICATION - All water is sandfiltered and chlorinated.

SUPPLY - The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied direct is 11,276.

SAMPLING

CHEMICAL - Six samples of water from public supplies were submitted for analysis during the year. Three were satisfactorily reported upon, and three were unsatisfactorily reported upon.

BACTERIOLOGICAL - Eleven samples of drinking water from Public Supplies and twenty-eight samples of drinking water from Private Supplies, were submitted for bacteriological examination. All eleven samples from the Public Supplies were satisfactorily reported upon.

Sixteen samples from Private Supplies were unsatisfactorily reported upon and twelve samples were satisfactorily reported upon.

Further samples of these supplies are being taken periodically. Users are meantime advised on precautionary measures, whilst steps are being taken for permanent purification by appropriate methods.

SEWERAGE,
DRAINAGE
AND CLOSET
ACCOMMODATION.

The table below gives the closet accommodation in the Borough :

Pails.....	95
Water Closets.....	13,463
Waste Water Closets.....	669
Cesspools.....	0

Total.....	14,227
	=====

Conversions and Installations during 1963:-

New Water Closets fixed.....	136
Waste Water Closets converted to	
Water Closets.....	32
Latrine Closets converted to Water Closets.	0
Pail Closets converted to Water Closets....	5
Baths installed during the year.....	72
Showers installed during the year.....	1
Urinals installed during the year.....	0
Waste Water Closets dismantled.....	2
Water Closets dismantled.....	25

Routine testing, inspection, repair and renewal of existing drains and sewers continued within the limits of availability of staff, material and labour.

It is hoped that closet conversions will gradually result in the total abolition of the 669 waste water closets, and in the belief that it will accelerate the rate of conversion the Council has now trebled the grant for conversion, from £ 5: 5: 0d to £ 15: 15: 0d. The next two or three years should show whether the public will take advantage of what virtually amounts to half-cost of conversion.

RIVERS
and
STREAMS

The river is still somewhat polluted by industrial waste effluents, though rather less than in previous years. In addition there is a certain amount of material dumped in the river by children and careless householders.

The river is frequently inspected and every effort made to prevent pollution wherever the sources are discoverable.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA	Number of houses visited	579
	Number of houses visited (Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 to 1932).....	118
	Number of inspections of schools.....	3
	Number of inspections of factories and workplaces.....	192
	Number of inspections of Municipal Hostel....	52
	Number of inspections of bakehouses.....	113
	Number of inspections of dairies and cowsheds.....	0
	Number of inspections of refuse tips.....	26
	Complaints received and investigated.....	472
	Number of re-inspections made.....	6,063
	Visits paid to houses (re cases of Infectious Diseases).....	24
	Number of rooms disinfected.....	14
	Number of smoke observations taken.....	12
	Number of inspections - Smoke Control Areas..	262
	Number of drains, etc. tested.....	276
	Total number of defects discovered.....	429
	Informal Notices served.....	429
	Statutory Notices served.....	79
	Number of nuisances abated, including outstanding nuisances from previous year.....	398

LIST OF NUISANCES DISCOVERED	Defective drains.....	133
	Choked and defective sewers.....	49
	Defective soil pipes and water closets.....	13
	Defective downspouts, easing troughs, roofs and external walls.....	38
	Defective plastering.....	18
	Defective roofs and damp walls.....	21
	Dirty houses and premises.....	0
	Dangerous buildings.....	0
	Dirty and dilapidated closet buildings.....	12
	Accumulations of refuse.....	10
	Defective or uneven gullies.....	2
	Insanitary sinks.....	2
	Defective fire-ranges.....	5
	Broken slop-pipes.....	4
	Defective flushing cisterns.....	0
	Choked waste water closets.....	23
	Choked water closets.....	23
	Insanitary yards.....	3
	Defective internal floors.....	5
	Insufficient ventilation.....	22
	Burst water pipes.....	3
	Defective wash boilers.....	0
	* Miscellaneous nuisances.....	66

* The miscellaneous nuisances include such items as defective pointing, defective woodwork of doors, defective pointing and putty around windows, etc.

SHOPS : FOOD

2,335 routine and special inspections were made of meat, fish and other food shops and market stalls under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Advice was given as necessary, and various works of improvement initiated. These consisted principally of the installation of requisite washing facilities, and of counter and shelf fittings designed to prevent contamination of food.

INSPECTIONS UNDER SHOPS ACT, 1950

Routine inspections are made and special inspections as occasion requires, but pressure of other work, especially housing, has limited visitation somewhat.

CLEAN AIR AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

Twelve smoke observations were taken during the year, and advice and instructions to stokers on firing and use of fuel, to secure as far as possible the prevention of black or heavy smoking, were given. There is a gradual but noticeable reduction of smoke taking place from factory chimneys, and factory owners now seem to be fully alerted to the necessity of preventing smoke emission. For this reason and to this end they are co-operating fully with the Department in replacing defective apparatus, or installing more modern plant and methods of fuel burning, as advised.

Four applications for prior approval to new installations were made and granted during the year.

Refined Iron Company.

The emissions of metallurgical fume from the chimney of this foundry continued to be a source of complaint during the year.

It had been hoped that the installation and operation of a powerful fan set in the chimney (which is already 150 ft. high) might have served to send the plume higher into atmosphere and to augment the dispersal and dilution of fumes which before were effected only naturally - by variable high-level air-currents.

Unfortunately, the fan had no, or only negligible, effect.

The problem of dealing with metallurgical fume from hot-blast furnaces is, of course, common to such installations in all parts of the country, and indeed in other countries.

It was for this reason and because of the special technical considerations involved that such processes were by Regulation made subject to control by H.M. Alkali Inspectorate.

...continued over...

CLEAN AIR
AND SMOKE
ABATEMENT.
CONTINUED.

That Department is working in close consultation and co-operation with the Industry in research and experiment to try to find economically practicable ways of reducing and purifying fume emission. But, unless there is some unexpected break-through, it seems likely that this may well take a few years.

SMOKE
CONTROL
AREAS

The town's first Smoke Control Area came into operation on the 1st October, 1963.

DISINFEST-
ATION

During the year fifty-two houses were found to be infested with vermin, chiefly cockroaches. All of these had been disinfested by the end of the year, gaseous fumigation and spraying being the methods employed.

OFFENSIVE
TRADES

The following are established in the district :-
Two tripe boilers, one fat extractor and one fat melter.

MUNICIPAL
HOSTEL

This is the only common lodging house in the town and is municipally owned and managed. The average daily number of lodgers for the year was :-

Males.....	120.54
Females.....	15.53

FACTORIES

One hundred and ninety-two routine and special visits were paid to factories with and without mechanical power during the year for purposes of the provisions as to health. Defects found (chiefly in connection with sanitary conveniences) were notified to occupiers and by the end of the year, were either completed or in hand. Routine visiting of factories has been stepped up considerably since the last Report.

As previously, the fullest co-operation was maintained between the Department and H.M. Inspector of Factories.

CHIEF
SANITARY
REQUIREMENTS
OF THE
DISTRICT

The chief sanitary requirements of the district are:-

The conversion of pail and waste water closets;

The paving, culverting, embanking and, as far as possible, purification of the river;

The clearance of derelict and neglected sites;

The paving of back streets and unmade roads;

The reduction of the number of private water supplies and the purification and protection of the remainder.

H O U S I N G

=====

The table below gives particulars of action taken specifically under the provisions of the Housing Acts in contradistinction to action under the Public Health Acts.

STATISTICS

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year :-

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b)).....	80
	(i) By Local Authority.....	32
	(ii) By other Local Authorities.....	0
	(iii) By other bodies or persons.....	48
(b)	With State assistance under the Housing Acts :-	
	(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above).....	32
	(ii) By other bodies (included under (a)(iii) above).....	0

I

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	119
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 - 1932.....	118
(3)	Number of inspections made for both purposes.	339
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.....	98

...continued over...

STATISTICS
(Continued)

I	(5)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	15
II		Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.....	0
III		Action under statutory powers during the year :-	
	(1)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs :-	
		Preliminary.....	10
		Statutory.....	10
	(b)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
	(i)	By owners.....	2
	(ii)	By Local Authority in default of owners.....	4
	(2)	Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
	(a) (i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	11
	(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses in ownership of Local Authority dealt with in Accordance with Section 3(3a) of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, as directed in Appendix II of Circular 33/56 with a view to demolition.....	0

...continued over...

STATISTICS
(Continued)

III	(2) (b)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	27
	(c)	Number of houses demolished where action has been taken under Section 53 of the Over Darwen Improvement Act, 1879.....	0
	(d)	Number of dwelling-houses closed as a result of Closing Orders made under Section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.....	19
	(3)	Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
	(a)	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.....	0
	(b)	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.....	0
	(4)	Houses closed informally by owners.....	0
	(5)	Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
		Number of dwelling-houses demolished as a result of Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders.....	81
IV		Housing Act, 1957, Part IV -Overcrowding-	
	(1) (a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.....	0
	(b)	Number of families dwelling therein.....	0
	(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein.....	0
	(2)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.....	0

...continued over...

STATISTICS
(Continued)

IV	(3) (a)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.....	0
	(b)	Number of persons concerned in such cases.....	0
V		Housing Acts, 1949 - 1958	
	(1) (a)	Number of schemes submitted and approved -	
	(i)	By private individuals to Local Authority.	4
	(ii)	By Local Authority.....	0
	(b)	Number of dwelling-houses affected.....	4
	(2) (a)	Number of schemes approved -	
	(i)	Of private individuals.....	0
	(ii)	Of the Local Authority.....	0
	(b)	Number of dwelling-houses affected.....	4
	(c)	Number of additional separate dwellings provided.....	0

OVERCROWDING

"Overcrowding" as to mixed sexes in families, not involving legal overcrowding has been fairly common in two-bedroomed houses, but is gradually being reduced.

GENERAL
OBSERVATIONS

The chief difficulty in housing work is the inability to secure extensive repairs by informal action, with the result that statutory procedure has to be invoked, with all the additional work and time involved.

A further twenty-five houses of varying types and sizes have been acquired by the Corporation at the instance of, and by agreement with, the owners, making a total of 266 houses so far taken over, of which 18 were in Housing Clearance or Redevelopment Schemes. Those not in such Schemes have been, or are to be, repaired. Some of the others have been patch-repaired for temporary occupancy pending final clearance.

Inspection, survey and repair proceeded steadily throughout the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

=====

SAMPLING

MILK

BIOLOGICAL. 57 samples were submitted for guinea pig inoculation. 54 were reported as negative and 3 guinea pigs died of an intercurrent infection too early for diagnosis of tuberculosis. In the latter cases repeat samples were taken.

BACTERIOLOGICAL. 94 samples were examined during the year, 84 were satisfactorily reported upon, 10 were unsatisfactorily reported upon, The reports were passed on for appropriate action to the Divisional Milk Officer.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF MILK - See Tables

I and II below.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The Public Abattoir was closed in June, 1941, in pursuance of a Ministry of Food Scheme for further centralising slaughtering.

Butcher's and other food shops, stalls and vehicles, and premises used for the preparation of human food are regularly inspected.

The amount of food examined; certified unfit, and either destroyed or utilised, after sterilisation, for animal feeding-stuffs, was as shown in Table III on page 34.

No legal proceedings were necessary in respect of unsound food during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS

The Local Authority, by direction of the Minister, is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Public Analyst, whose advice and help are always available and much valued.

The quality of the food sold in the district is generally good.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF OTHER FOODS -

See Table I.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLES REPORTED GENUINE

NO. OF SAMPLES	DESCRIPTION	FORMAL	INFORMAL
29	Milk.....	29	-
1	Buttered Barm Cakes.....	-	1
1	Meat Paste Barm Cakes.....	-	1
1	Evaporated Milk.....	-	1
1	Vanilla Fudge.....	-	1
5	Ice Cream.....	-	5
2	Pork Sausage.....	-	2
1	Yeastex.....	-	1
1	All Fours Mixture.....	-	1
2	Beef Sausage.....	-	2
1	Elder Flowers and Peppermint.....	-	1
1	Extract of Herbs for making Herb Beer	-	1
1	Dried Fruit Mixture.....	-	1
1	Sage and Onion Stuffing Mixture.....	-	1
1	Pure Almond Marzipan.....	-	1
1	Plum Pudding.....	-	1
1	Cheese Spread with Mushroom.....	-	1
1	Cheese Spread with Salmon.....	-	1
1	Christmas Cake.....	-	1
1	Bacardi Rum.....	1	-
1	Cherry Brandy.....	1	-
1	Cointreau.....	1	-
1	Peach Brandy.....	1	-
1	Martini Bianco.....	1	-
3	Rum.....	3	-
3	Vodka.....	3	-
3	Brandy.....	3	-
3	Gin.....	3	-
3	Whisky.....	3	-

TABLE 11 - SAMPLES REPORTED NOT GENUINE

CONS. NO.	NO. OF SAMPLES	DESCRIP- TION	FORMAL	INFOR- MAL	RESULT	ACTION TAKEN
1	1	Pork Sausage		x	Meat content only 63.5%. Poor in meat content. Contained 195 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor notified.

TABLE 111 - SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD

CONDEMNED DURING 1963.

=====

AMOUNT	NATURE OF FOOD	AMOUNT	NATURE OF FOOD
165 tins	Assorted Fruit	31 tins	Assorted Vegetables
13 tins	Ham	13 tins	Corned Beef
9 tins	Stewed Steak	5 tins	Tongue
1 tin	Spam	4 tins	Luncheon Meat
4 tins	Mutton	1 tin	Steak
22 tins	Assorted Soup	8 tins	Milk
7 tins	Rice Pudding	27 tins	Baked Beans
15 tins	Herrings in Tomato Juice	3 tins	Orange Juice
6 tins	Salmon	13 tins	Cream
3 tins	Shrimps	1 tin	Beans and Sausage
1 tin	Lobster	3 tins	Sardines
2 tins	Pilchards	4 tins	Steak Puddings
1 tin	Prunes with Cereal	1 tin	Apple, Prunes and Custard
1 tin	Pineapple Pie Filling	2 tins	Spaghetti
2 bunches	Spring Onions	3 jars	Fruit Salad
17 boxes	Cress	29	Lettuce
1 pkt	Kippers	1 pkt	Frozen Beans
1 tin	Treacle	6	Radish
2 lbs	Mushrooms	2 lbs	Beetroot
2 lbs	Smoked Fillet	10 lbs	Spring Cabbage
20 lbs	Grapes	$\frac{1}{4}$ lbs	Prawns
		18 lbs	Bacon Trimmings
		49 lbs	Ray Checks

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

=====

Investigation and disinfestation proceeded steadily throughout the year, and it has become increasingly obvious that the initial survey and co-ordinated treatments, and especially the comprehensive and radical treatment of the sewers, have reduced to a low level the degree of infestation in the town. This has been maintained now for seventeen years, and it is expected that regular re-survey, sewer maintenance treatment and block control, will keep it there or still further reduce it.

The following table gives a summary of the work done throughout the year :-

NO. OF PREMISES INSPECTED	NO. OF PREMISES FOUND INFESTED	NO. OF TREATMENTS CARRIED OUT		ESTIM- ATED KILL OF RATS	CUM. TOTAL OF RATS KILLED SINCE INCEPTION OF SERVICE
		FULL	TEST		
352 (including 29 hen-pens)	123	122	144	150	33,878

SEWER
TREATMENTS

DATE	NUMBER OF MANHOLES TREATED	ESTIMATED KILL
May	170	16
October	147	4

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